FTC Lab

TO: Mr. Paul D. Smith July 12, 1966

FROM: H. Wakeham

SUBJECT: Visit from Celanese Personnel - Messrs. Randy Jewell, Jack Osmar, and Dr. Charles Keith

The Celanese people visited with us today to inform us that the Federal Trade Commission has asked them for assistance in setting up a smoking laboratory. The assistance required is broad, including the recommendation of the method, type smoking machines to be used, setting up of equipment, and the training of personnel. Dr. Keith and Mr. Epstein visited the Federal Trade Commission, and talked with Messrs. Sweeney, Irish, and with Dr. Gilmore, a physical scientist. Dr. Keith gave them a critique on smoke analysis. The laboratory will be set up in the Star Building in Washington, D.C. The Federal Trade Commission is presently attempting to obtain an analytical chemist who will head up this laboratory. They hope to have him on the premises by mid-August and the conjecture is that he will come from another government division, such as the FDA. The Federal Trade Commission plans to be smoking cigarets by September 1. Dr. Keith feels they are overly optimistic, and very naive about the problems of smoke testing.

According to Dr. Keith, the Federal Trade Commission is getting into the smoke analysis business in order to report back to Congress by next July. The Federal Trade Commission feels that it needs the facility to carry out these smoke determinations itself rather than to contract them out. At the present time they have no equipment and no real knowledge in cigaret smoke analyses. They are particularly anxious to have information on the determination of water in TPM so a correction can be made to the dry TPM basis. The analyses to be carried out by the Federal Trade Commission at this particular time will be TPM and nicotine determinations. The Federal Trade Commission is expected to make these data available to the public.

The Celanese people stated that they have nothing to gain from this middle-man role, and would prefer not to be placed in their present situation. Celanese hopes to back out of this role as soon as this smoking laboratory is set up. The question is, should Celanese help them set up this laboratory, or should they let the Federal Trade Commission "muddle" their own way through these determinations? Dr. Keith said that someone is going to need to help them, since they are such novices in the smoke analyses field, and may report completely erroneous results. Celanese will involve Tennessee Eastman, should they decide to go ahead with this training program. If Celanese obtains one dissenting vote from the tobacco companies they are

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now visiting, they will inform the Federal Trade Commission that they will not assist them in this program. Jack Osmar is heading up this investigation, and it was suggested that we reply to Mr. Osmar regarding any suggestion we might have in this matter. Celanese has agreed to report back to the Federal Trade Commission by August 9.

H W Wake

cc: Mr. C. H. Goldsmith
Mr. H. C. Cullman
Mr. F. E. Resnik
Dr. R. B. Seligman

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